## Exhibit A

## INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Agreement dated as of July 1, 2003, between Fairfield Sentry Limited, a British Virgin Islands corporation (the "Fund"), having its registered office at the CITCO Building, Wickhams Cay, P.O. Box 662, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, and Fairfield Greenwich (Bermuda) Limited, a corporation organized under the laws of the Bermuda (the "Investment Manager"), having an office at 14 Par La Ville Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Hamilton Bermuda.

WHEREAS, the Fund wishes to obtain the investment management services of the Investment Manager with respect to the assets underlying the Fund's Class A and Class B Shares, and

WHEREAS, the Investment Manager is willing to provide such advice and services on the terms and conditions set forth below,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. The Fund hereby retains the Investment Manager to manage the investment of its assets as contemplated by and described in the Confidential Private Placement Memorandum of the Fund, dated July 1, 2003, and as such Confidential Private Placement Memorandum may be further amended (the "Memorandum"). All capitalized terms not defined herein shall be defined as set forth in the Memorandum. Such management will include, but shall not be limited to the utilization of a nontraditional options trading strategy described as "split strike conversion" (the "SSC Investments"). The Fund's SSC Investments shall be conducted in an account established

in the name of the Fund at Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities, a broker dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, in New York, New York. The Investment Manager may, in its sole and exclusive discretion, allocate a portion of the Fund's assets to alternative investment opportunities other than the SSC Investments (the "Non-SSC Investments"); provided, however, that the amount so allocated to the Non-SSC Investments in the aggregate shall not exceed an amount equal to 5% of the Net Asset Value of the Fund (measured at the time of investment in each Non-SSC Investment vehicle) and no single allocation shall exceed \$50 million at the time it is made. The identification of, and terms of the Fund's investment in, the Non-SSC Investments shall be in the sole and exclusive discretion of the Investment Manager. The Investment Manager is authorized to negotiate, among other things, risk control and performance guidelines, lock-up periods and fees incident to the Non-SSC Investments; provided that the fees paid in connection with the Non-SSC Investments shall not cause an increase in the amount of the fees to be paid by the Fund pursuant to this Agreement.

2. The activities engaged in by the Investment Manager on behalf of the Fund shall be subject to the policies and control of the Fund's Directors. Subject to such direction and the investment policies set forth in the Memorandum, the Investment Manager shall use its best efforts to (a) seek suitable investment opportunities and manage the investment portfolio of the Fund; (b) perform or oversee the day-to-day investment operations of the Fund; (c) act as investment adviser for the Fund in connection with investment decisions; (d) provide information in connection with the preparation of all reports to the Fund's shareholders described in the Memorandum; and (e) arrange for and oversee the services of the Fund's administrator,

custodian(s), auditors and counsel to act on behalf of the Fund; provided, however, that the Investment Manager is not authorized to enter into agreements in the name of the Fund with such providers of services.

- 3. Within 5 days after the end of each of the first three weeks of each month and within 10 days after the end of each month or fiscal quarter of the Fund, as the case may be, the Investment Manager shall send to the Fund weekly and monthly valuations of the SSC Investments and the Non-SSC Investments. The Investment Manager shall cause any and all documentation respecting such investments to be sent to the Fund. The Investment Manager shall be available at all times, upon reasonable notice, for consultation with the Directors of the Fund in connection with the investments of the Fund.
- 4. The Investment Manager shall for all purposes be an independent contractor and not an agent or employee of the Fund, and the Investment Manager shall have no authority to act for, represent, bind or obligate the Fund except as specifically provided herein.
- 5. The Investment Manager may delegate its duties hereunder or assign this Agreement in its entirety to a wholly-owned subsidiary or an affiliate without the further consent of the Fund.
- 6. All investments of the Fund shall at all times conform to and be in accordance with the requirements imposed by:
  - (a) any provisions of applicable law; and

(b) provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation, Memorandum of Association, and Articles of Association of the Fund, as amended from time to time.

The Fund shall furnish the Investment Manager with a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation, Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association, of the Fund as in effect at the commencement of this Agreement and, thereafter, shall promptly furnish the Investment Manager with copies of such documents as they may be amended from time to time.

- 7. The Fund shall bear, for each year, all expenses in maintaining the Fund's offices and all other expenses incurred in the operation of the Fund, including the ordinary and necessary expenses related to the Fund's investment and trading activities (including transactional costs, escrow and custodial fees), all insurance expenses, all legal and auditing fees, and fees and expenses relating to any extraordinary circumstances, such as tax examinations and litigation involving the Fund.
- 8. The Fund shall pay the Investment Manager, as full compensation for the services performed by the Investment Manager and the facilities furnished by the Investment Manager, (a) in connection with the Class A Shares: a quarterly performance fee, payable after the last day of each calendar quarter, in an amount equal to 20% of the amount of any New High Net Profits, as defined in the Memorandum, allocable to the Class A Shares; and (b) in connection with the Class B Shares: a fixed monthly management fee in an amount equal to one-twelfth of one percent (0.0833%) of the Net Asset Value (as defined in the Memorandum) of the Fund's Class B Shares as of the first day of each monthly period, after giving effect to any subscriptions for

Class B Shares accepted as of the first day of such month (the "Management Fee"), which shall be paid monthly in arrears, and a quarterly performance fee payable after the last day of each calendar quarter, in an amount equal to 20% of the amount of any New High Net Profits allocable to the Class B Shares (the performance fee payable with respect to each of the Class A and Class B Shares shall be referred to herein collectively as the "Performance Fee"). Shares of the Fund shall be subject to the payment of the Performance Fee for the portion of each calendar quarter that they are issued and outstanding. For the purposes hereof, the value of the net assets of the Fund and its Net Asset Value per Share (as defined in the Memorandum) shall be computed in the manner specified in the Memorandum for the computation of the value of such net assets in connection with the determination of the redemption price of its shares. Payment of the Performance Fee shall be made to the Investment Manager on or after the last day of each calendar quarter of each year; payment of the Management Fee shall be made within ten (10) days after the month for which such Management Fee has accrued. Each payment for services to the Investment Manager shall be accompanied by a report of the Fund, prepared either by the Fund or by an established firm of independent public accountants, which shall show the amount properly payable to the Investment Manager under this Agreement, and the manner of computation thereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that, as of the end of any calendar year, the aggregate amount of original investments in Non-SSC Investment vehicles allocable to each of the Class A and Class B Shares exceeds the aggregate Net Asset Value of the respective share class' interests in Non-SSC Investment vehicles (before deduction of the Fund's share of fees payable to the Non-SSC Investment vehicles) (such excess being collectively referred to as the "Non-SSC Investment Loss"), the Investment Manager will reduce the amount of its Performance Fee allocable to the Class A and/or Class B Shares payable at subsequent loss resulting from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of the Investment Manager's obligations and duties, or by reason of the Investment Manager's reckless disregard of their obligations and duties hereunder.

- (b) The Investment Manager, its directors, officers and employees, agents and counsel (each, an "Investment Manager Indemnitee"), shall not be subject to, and the Fund shall indemnify to the fullest extent permitted by law and hold each Investment Manager Indemnitee free and harmless from and against, any and all claims, demands, liability or expenses for any loss suffered by the Fund arising out or any act or omission of an Investment Manager Indemnitee relating to the Fund, except to the extent such act or omission constitutes willful misconduct, or reckless disregard of the duties of the Investment Manager or on the part of the Investment Manager Indemnitee.
- 11. The Investment Manager and each of its respective shareholders, directors, employees and officers, may engage simultaneously with their investment management activities on behalf of the Fund in other businesses, and may render services similar to those described in this Agreement for other individuals, companies, trusts or persons, and shall not by reason of engaging in such other businesses or rendering of services for others be deemed to be acting in conflict with the interests of the Fund.
- 12. This Agreement shall be in full force and effect on the date of this Agreement and shall continue until the termination by either party on written notice ten days prior to the end of any calendar quarter. During the period between the date when notice of termination is deemed given hereunder and the effective date of termination, the rights, powers and duties of the Investment Manager shall remain in full force and effect but shall be subject to the right of the

Fund to direct the liquidation of any investment, which direction shall be given in writing or by telex. The Fund represents, covenants and agrees that its decision to terminate this Agreement shall require a unanimous affirmative vote of directors for so long as the Fund has three or less directors and a vote of 75% of the directors casting votes at such time as the Fund has more than three directors.

- registered or certified air mail, postage prepaid, with return receipt requested, or by means of telecopy or other wire transmission (with request for assurance of receipt in a manner typical with respect to communications of that type), to the Fund and Investment Manager at the respective addresses indicated in the Offering Memorandum, or to such other addresses as the parties may hereafter direct in writing. The effective date of any notice given by mail shall be ten days after the date of mailing thereof; any notice to any party having a telecopy or telex number for the receipt at its address for notice hereunder of messages by transmission by telecopy or telex shall be deemed given when transmitted by telecopy or telex addressed to such party at such telecopy or telex number.
- 14. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns, and shall not be modified, except in writing, nor assigned by either party without the consent of the other party.
- This Agreement shall be construed and governed in accordance with the laws of Bermuda, without regard to the principles of conflicts of laws thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the day first above written.

FAIRFIELD SENTRY LIMITED

Bv:

Name: Walter M. Noel, J.

Title: Director

FAIRFIELD GREENWICH (BERMUDA) LTD.

By:

Name: Andres Piedrahita

Title: Director

Agreed to an accepted for purposes

of Paragraph 9 only:

FAIRFIELD GREENWICH ADVISORS LLC

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the day first above written.

FAIRFIELD SENTRY LIMITED

Name: Walter M. Noel, Jr.
Title: Director

FAIRFIELD GREENWICH (BERMUDA) LTD.

By.

Nome: Andres Piedrahita

Title: Director

Agreed to an accepted for purposes of Paragraph 9 only:

FAIRFIELD GREENWICH ADVISORS LLC